## What is Claimed is:

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 A conveying apparatus for conveying a material which comprises: an elongated conveying bed which includes a proximal end and a distal end;

a support structure for the conveying bed which accommodates vibratory motion of a portion of the conveying bed extending from the proximal end a substantial distance toward the distal end, but which dampens vibratory motion at the distal end; and

a piezoelectric driver which is operatively connected to the conveying bed adjacent the proximal end;

wherein operation of the piezoelectric driver induces a wave motion in the conveying bed which conveys the material from the proximal end to the distal end.

- 2. The conveying apparatus of claim 1, wherein the support structure comprises at least one isolation spring which is positioned between the proximal end and a static base structure, and a rigid support member which is positioned between the distal end and the base structure.
- 3. The conveying apparatus of claim 2, further comprising a static conveying trough which includes a pair of side walls that are positioned adjacent opposite sides of the conveying bed.
- 4. The conveying apparatus of claim 3, wherein the static conveying trough is supported proximate the distal end of the conveying bed by the rigid support member.

- 5. The conveying apparatus of claim 4, wherein the static conveying trough is further supported by at least one static support member which is spaced apart from the rigid support member.
- 6. The conveying apparatus of claim 1, wherein the conveying bed comprises a generally flat plate.
  - 7. The conveying apparatus of claim 6, wherein the plate comprises a thickness of at least about 18 gauge.
  - 8. The conveying apparatus of claim 1, wherein the piezoelectric driver is operable at a frequency of between about 0 and 20 kilohertz.
  - 9. The conveying apparatus of claim 8, wherein the piezoelectric driver is operable at an amplitude of between about 0 and 0.002 inch.

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- 10. The conveying apparatus of claim 1, wherein the piezoelectric driver is operable at approximately the natural frequency of the conveying bed.
- 11. A method for conveying a material which comprises the steps of: providing an elongated conveying bed which includes a proximal end and a distal end;

supporting the conveying bed such that vibratory motion is accommodated in a portion of the conveying bed extending from the proximal end a substantial distance toward the distal end but dampened at the distal end; and

inducing vibratory motion in the proximal end of the conveying bed with a piezoelectric driver;

wherein the vibratory motion generates a wave motion in the conveying bed that conveys the material from the proximal end to the distal end.

- 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the piezoelectric driver is operated at a frequency of between about 0 and 20 kilohertz.
- 13. The method of claim 12, wherein the piezoelectric driver is operated at an amplitude of between about 0 and 0.002 inch.

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- 14. The method of claim 11, wherein the piezoelectric driver is operated at approximately the natural frequency of the conveying bed.
- 15. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of confining the material on the conveying bed with a static conveying trough which includes a pair of side walls that are positioned adjacent opposite sides of the conveying bed.